

Water saving numbers:

**SAN DIEGO COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY**  
[www.sdcwa.org](http://www.sdcwa.org) ..... (858) 522-6600

**CITY OF SAN DIEGO WATER DEPT**  
[www.sandiego.gov/water](http://www.sandiego.gov/water)..... (619) 515-3500

**HELIX WATER DISTRICT**  
[www.hwd.com](http://www.hwd.com)..... (619) 667-6261

**OTAY WATER DISTRICT**  
[www.otaywater.gov](http://www.otaywater.gov) ..... (619) 670-2222

**SWEETWATER AUTHORITY**  
[www.sweetwater.org](http://www.sweetwater.org)..... (619) 420-1413

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
[www.owue.water.ca.gov](http://www.owue.water.ca.gov)  
Water Use Efficiency Office: ... (916) 327-1655

Compliments of...

**Marty Block**

ASSEMBLYMEMBER, 78TH DISTRICT

**CAPITOL OFFICE:**

State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0078  
(916) 319- 2078  
Fax: (916) 319-2178

**DISTRICT OFFICE:**

7144 Broadway  
Lemon Grove, CA 91945  
(619) 462-7878  
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**E-MAIL:**

Assemblymember.Block@assembly.ca.gov

**78TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT WEBSITE:**

[www.asm.ca.gov/block](http://www.asm.ca.gov/block)

**ASSEMBLY WEBSITE:**

[www.asm.ca.gov](http://www.asm.ca.gov)



Ways  
to save our  
water



Easy  
advice for  
conserving  
water at  
home...



California State Assembly  
**Marty Block**  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, 78TH DISTRICT

Dear friend,

Did you know that the average American household spends as much as \$500 per year on its water and sewer bill? Moreover, each person uses about 80-to-100 gallons of water per day. As California's population increases, it is important that we manage and allocate our limited water supply in the most effective ways possible. Water is crucial for supporting businesses and the economic interests of the region, for protecting our environment and for providing recreation and water for daily use to the people of California.

People sometimes feel that individual efforts to conserve water will not make much of a difference. This brochure has easy to follow water saving tips that can save your household thousands of gallons of water each month, which does make a difference! I encourage you to use this information to help conserve California's water resources. I hope your individual efforts can serve as an example to other Californians.

If you have questions or concerns about water conservation, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

**MARTY BLOCK**  
Assemblymember, 78th District



## Saving water Indoors:

- ✚ Never put water down the drain when there is another use for it such as watering plants or cleaning. Use buckets or pots to capture warm-up water from the shower, sink or bath.
- ✚ Verify that your home is leak free. Read your water meter before and after a two-hour period when water is not being used. If the meter does not read the same, there is a leak.
- ✚ Repair dripping faucets. This can save up to 20 gallons a day per leak.
- ✚ Insulate your water pipes. You will get hot water more quickly and avoid wasting water while it heats up.
- ✚ Fully load the dishwasher and washing machines. If you wash small loads, be sure to adjust the setting accordingly.
- ✚ When washing dishes by hand, fill the sink with soapy water, then quickly rinse under a slow-moving stream from the faucet or fill the second sink with rinse water.
- ✚ Rinse vegetables in a filled sink or pan instead of under running water.
- ✚ Do not use running water to defrost frozen foods. Use a microwave or leave food in the refrigerator overnight.
- ✚ Store drinking water in the refrigerator instead of waiting for tap water to cool.
- ✚ Use the garbage disposal less. Disposals require a lot of water to operate properly.
- ✚ Turn off the water while brushing your teeth. Use a glass of water for rinsing. This can save several gallons of water each day.
- ✚ When shaving, fill the bottom of the sink with water for use when rinsing.
- ✚ Install water-saving shower heads or flow restrictors.



- ✚ Take shorter showers or only fill the bathtub 1/3 of the way full.
- ✚ When adjusting water temperatures, turn the water flow down instead of up.
- ✚ Flush the toilet less often. Throw tissues and other such waste in the trash.
- ✚ Check your toilet for leaks. Put a few drops of food coloring in the tank. If color appears in the bowl without flushing, there is a leak.
- ✚ Replace or repair your toilet handle if it sticks. This will prevent the water from running constantly.
- ✚ Place a displacement bag, brick or plastic bottle in your toilet tank. This will reduce the amount of flushed water without reducing toilet efficiency.
- ✚ Install an ultra-low-flush toilet. This can cut the amount of water that goes down the drain about 50% of each flush.

## Saving water Outdoors:

- ✚ Plant drought resistant trees and plants. Once established they do not need to be watered as frequently.
- ✚ Water the lawn and plants in the morning or evening to avoid evaporation.
- ✚ Do not water your street, driveway or sidewalk. Use a broom to clean these areas. Position sprinklers so water lands on lawn and plants, not paved areas.
- ✚ Use a hose with a shut-off nozzle that can be adjusted down to a fine spray. Turn it off at the faucet to avoid leaks.
- ✚ Do not leave sprinklers or hoses unattended. Your hose can pour out nearly 600 gallons of water in two hours.
- ✚ Raise the lawn mower blade to at least 3 inches. Taller grass holds water better.
- ✚ Use mulch to retain moisture in the soil.



- ✚ Avoid over-fertilizing your lawn. Fertilizers increase the need for water. Apply fertilizers that contain slow-release, water insoluble forms of nitrogen.
- ✚ Consider using a commercial car wash that recycles water. If you wash your own car, park on the grass to do so.
- ✚ If you have a swimming pool, consider using a new water-saving pool filter. Install covers on pools and spas to cut down on evaporation.

## Water saving checklist:

*Use these simple tips daily to make conserving water in your home a habit.*

- ✚ Do not keep water running while shaving, brushing teeth or washing dishes.
- ✚ Only use the dishwasher and washing machine when completely full.
- ✚ Do not use your toilet as a wastebasket.
- ✚ Water your lawn in the morning or evening.
- ✚ Do not use running water to defrost frozen foods.
- ✚ Keep drinking water in the refrigerator.
- ✚ Check for leaky faucets, pipes and toilets.
- ✚ Take shorter showers or fill baths only 1/3 full.
- ✚ Make sure your pool or spa is covered.
- ✚ Use your garbage disposal less.
- ✚ Do not leave hoses or sprinklers unattended.
- ✚ Make sure not to water paved areas.
- ✚ Use a shut-off nozzle on your hose.
- ✚ Step on your grass, if it bounces back it does not need water.
- ✚ Never put water down the drain; find another use for it.